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# Tri-Town Times

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## After Nearly 50 Years, Chester College Closes

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Despite last-minute fundraising efforts to save the school, Chester College of New England will be closing its doors this year.

The college's board of trustees made the decision to cease operations on Friday, May 18 after it was clear that the financial struggles the college was facing, struggles that were not new to the institution, were too severe.

Unfortunately, said trustee Craig Ahlquist, it was the perfect storm of factors that signaled the end of the school. No one's happy with the closure, he said, but it was the trustees' only choice.

The small liberal arts college in the heart of Chester made the headlines

when news of its financial woes were made public in late April. Beginning then students, faculty and staff furiously tried to fundraise their way out of the situation. Though they raised approximately \$100,000 in just a couple weeks and identified significant savings in operational costs, it didn't put a significant dent in the shortfall.

The college will finish out this year with a deficit of approximately \$600,000. If a needed 65 students enrolled in the coming year the institution was facing an additional \$1 million shortfall then, but when the trustees made the decision to close the school just 35 new students had signed up, pushing that coming year's deficit to nearly \$1.9 million.

While an enrollment reduction of 30 might be a

drop in a bucket to a larger school with incoming classes of hundreds, a place like Chester College can't handle what amounts to a nearly 50 percent reduction in their tuition revenue.

Low enrollment isn't a new problem, and according to trustees it's the driving force behind the school's end. Last year just 45 students signed up when 65 were needed.

While trustees commended students, staff and faculty for their efforts at fundraising and their passion to save the school, it was agreed that unless an 'angel donor' came in with a seven digit donation, there was just no way to save it that way.

"There were just not enough students and not enough revenue to make it viable," said Ahlquist.

**continued on page 3**

## Barczak Updates Selectmen on Superintendent Search

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – Sandown school board member Roger Barczak met with the board of selectmen at their Monday, May 21 meeting to update them and residents about the process underway to find a new superintendent for the Timberlane/Hampstead School Administrative Unit (SAU) 55 School District.

In April, superintendent Richard La Salle announced plans to leave the district, and soon after the SAU Board, made up of Hampstead and Timberlane School District board members, decided to undertake a

national search to find his replacement.

La Salle will be taking a position with the South Eastern Regional Education Service Center, a Bedford-based nonprofit providing educational consulting and professional development services.

Barczak informed the selectmen that the SAU Board has hired NESDEC (New England School Development Council) to lead the search. Barczak conceded that the process would be longer, more involved and more expensive with the third party, but that it was worth it to board members to find the best person for the important job.

When the SAU Board agreed to hire NESDEC they stipulated that up to \$30,000 could be spent on the process, but Barczak estimated that the cost would be closer to \$13,000 plus expenses.

The SAU board is hoping to net 30 candidates for the job, said Barczak.

As part of the process, feedback from the school community and the public will be solicited through seven focus groups. These groups in their turn will seek input from administrators and SAU employees, the school board, seniors, elected officials and community members, teachers, high school students and

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**AVENGER STRENGTH** Masked super hero Todd Spencer was just one of the over 800 participants who took part in this year's Wason Pond Pounder in Chester on Saturday, May 19. The obstacle course-style race has become an annual fundraiser for the Chester Field of Dreams Committee with its goal being the construction of athletic fields near Wason Pond.  
See story on page 10.

*Photo by Chris Paul*

## Conservation Decides to Go for Purchase of 40-acre Parcel

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD - Conservation Commission Chairman Tim Lovell has been corresponding and negotiating with the owner of a 40-acre backland parcel off of Main Street for the last several months. Lovell announced at the Conservation Commission meeting Wednesday night that the parcel's owner, Poy Lew, who lives out of state, had reduced his de-

mand for \$100,000 for the parcel to \$85,000.

"Do you want me to write back that our offer of \$75,000 is firm or would you like us to add \$5,000 to our offer," Lovell asked the Commission members. Member David Treat spoke up promptly and said he could live with the \$85,000 and member Paul Carideo agreed that he thought \$85,000 was a fair price. After a brief discussion the decision was made for Lovell to email the

Board of Selectmen with their decision to notify Lew with their intention of accepting his offer of \$85,000 and asked Secretary Sally Theriault to arrange for a public hearing on the decision to buy the landlocked parcel for Conservation purposes. Before they can provide the land owner with a sales and purchase agreement the Commission must hold a public hearing on the

**continued on page 3**

# New Display Cases Highlight Chester's History

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – The Chester Historical Society has a variety of treasures that tell the story of Chester through the years. Unfortunately, many of those items have long been tucked away out of site in boxes and miscellaneous envelopes, and their stories were silent. At least until recently.

Now, a new wall of well lit, glass door display cabinets in the museum at Stevens Memorial Hall has allowed many of those treasures to come out from hiding for all to see.

With community support of recent years' fundraisers, the society was able to purchase eight cabinets - 28 feet long in all - to show off the items that tell the town's history. The first four were installed last month, and members have been busy filling them.

The first four cabinets are dedicated to the Grange, Textiles, Glassware and the Railroad. During a recent

visit, society member Jackie Brown showed off some of those items, all of which hint at much longer stories. There were coin holders and tickets for those who rode the Chester and Derry Railroad, a diary from 1863, a silver certificate, a clay tobacco pipe, a patchwork quilt made by the Ladies' Social Circle in 1885, a shawl from 1766 made fancy with beads crafted from the quills of bird feathers, turn-of-the-century "Chester" souvenirs from Wilcomb's or Webster's Store, an ice pick from Judy's Ice Company, 5 pound bags from Towle's Old Fashion Charcoal, and years of early 20th century Grange booklets with upcoming programs, the membership of which is comprised of ancestors of many of those still in town.

"This town has so much history!" said Brown as she showed off some of the rarer items she recently found in non-descript envelopes.

Chester was a pretty slow town until the railroad



Chester Historian Jackie Brown shows off some of the items in the newly-purchased display cases at the Chester History Museum. Photo by Chris Paul

came through in the late 1800s, said Brown. But when it did, the town on the hill attracted people from all over, many of them leaving their stifling city homes in the summer looking to feel the breeze on the hill. Vanderbilts and Frenchs and actual counts visited and

made their home in Chester. To display the items and thus tell their stories has been a dream come true for the society, said Brown, but a dream that would not have been realized without community support, from attendance at fundraisers to purchasing scarecrows to

donations.

The cabinets are also helping to grow the society's collection. After seeing the displays, many residents have been donating items from their private collections. They know that the items now have the opportunity to be displayed and cared for.

The cabinets are made of oak, and great pains were taken to match their color to the wood and molding in Stevens Hall, a building more than a century old. Below each display unit are large drawers for storage. Every drawer and display shelf is locked to assure its safety.

"We exist as a society to preserve and protect the history of Chester, and these new display cabinets are allowing us to do this," Brown said. "This town's history is vast, and is being told through the display of historic materials and the continuing education of Chester's history through speakers, cemetery walks and the New Hampshire Humanities programs. The society also works with the fourth grade classrooms when studying New Hampshire history, and also the Girl and Boy Scouts to pro-

mote the town's history."

The museum also recently expanded outside to a town garage behind Stevens Hall. Housed there are large items, such as the Lane mail wagon, the cupola/finial from the top of Stevens Hall and a deep well pump that served the French and Vanderbilt homes on Chester Street. Don Brown made museum style podiums that illustrate the history of each item.

The society still has plenty of boxes in the mezzanine at Stevens Hall, and plans in coming weeks are to go through all of them, inventory the items and put many of them on display.

The next unit being worked on will feature Chester schools.

The Chester Historical Society holds meetings in January, March, May, July, September, and November on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at Stevens Hall. Membership is open to all. The Society's Office and Exhibits at Stevens Memorial Hall are open on the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The museum will be closed May 12 for the Town Meeting.

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# Land Purchase

continued from page 1

proposed land purchase, and if it passes muster there it must then be approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Lovell announced that the chemical treatment of Shop Pond for the Fanwort infestation would take place in June. He said the company the Commission is dealing with, Aquatic Control Tech, would notify them when the date in June was set but that it depended upon weather and temperature. Lovell indicated that the plan calls for lowering Shop Pond and that an extra board would inserted in the Wash Pond dam to slow or

stop flow from Wash Pond into Shop Pond for the few days required for the treatment. The Friends of Island Pond have objected to the use of chemicals for this operation but asked that the Commission seal off the Shop Pond Dam so no chemically treated water would reach Great Island Pond. Lovell said this was technically impossible but that everything that could be done would be done to prevent treated water from reaching Great Island Pond.

"Ideally we'd like to lower Wash Pond by an inch or so but that would not please the residents liv-

ing around that body of water," he said. "The chemical we are using, Clipper, works very quickly and the State is monitoring this very closely because they want to see how effective it is and how quickly it works."

In other business:

• Ginny Duston, the first Hampstead Conservation Commission Chairperson has kept an exhaustive and very complete record of Conservation proceedings, purchases and regulations from her time in 1971 to the present and presented the scrap book to Treat for the Commission. A decision was made to have the scrap book's contents scanned to the Web site so copies could be made and the original

put in the Town vault.

• James Wilkerson, 126 Wash Pond Road asked the commission's approval for paving his driveway which is also access to conservation land. Only Carideo had concerns and that was to make sure the drainage was done properly so run-off and drainage didn't get into the lake through the Wash Pond Road catch basins.

• Jon Worthen told the commission that he was giving them the first conceptual step toward work that has to be done to the Shop Pond Dam. He said he is applying for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant and if that should come through he would be able to move forward probably next year

with the work on the dam but eventually the dam has to be repaired. The cost of the project could be as much as \$75,000.

• Julia Forbes came to the commission and explained her concerns with run-off and storm water controls relative to the proposed Depot Development project across from Ordway Park.

She also suggested Planning Board and ZBA standards being applied to projects are inadequate and outdated and need to be brought up to date. Carideo said that run-off and storm water she referred to from that site would not cross Main Street and reach Ordway Park but Forbes was

not convinced and asked the commission to keep a close watch on the development.

• Treat asked the board for approval to purchase a special tool that would be used to remove deeply rooted invasive plants that are cropping up in West Road Conservation land.

The cost of the tool is \$155 and \$34 for shipping and the commission authorized him to make the purchase and agreed to reimburse him. Treat says he will form a work party in the near future to go and address the invasive plants, especially Burning Bush plants, and root out as much as possible because they are taking over.

## Chester College

continued from page 1

Efforts were made by the trustees and college President Robert Baines to save the school over a number of years. Though much blame from students, faculty and staff has fallen on Baines and the trustees for not fundraising enough and not communicating well with the rest of the school community, trustees have a different perspective.

The school would have closed years ago without the efforts of Baines, trustees say.

A seasoned admissions team was hired to bring enrollment numbers up. To give them time to work trustees sought stop gap measures to keep funding adequate. These efforts included bringing in accomplished business people, seeking donations and asking the Attorney General to

allow them to tap more than the acceptable percentage from the school's endowment. Though tapping the endowment helped keep the school afloat last year, they weren't allowed to repeat the performance this year.

The lingering recession and a drop in the college aged population made it very difficult to attract enough students to the arts school.

Complicating matters were decisions on behalf of major donors that they could no longer give to the school like they had been and a stop to the college's main line of bank credit.

A partnership with New England College in HENRIK has been crafted to provide a place for Chester's students to finish out their college careers.

Ahlquist conceded that it was impossible to repli-

cate Chester College exactly, but the trustees' and president's main goal with partnering with another institution was to match it as closely as possible.

According to Ahlquist, the campus is close-knit and rural, efforts at housing Chester College students together are underway, some Chester College faculty and adjunct faculty will be hired there, programming is similar and New England College has agreed to honor all of the same deals in scholarships, grants etc. that current students have.

Efforts are ongoing to make the transition for current and incoming students as smooth as possible.

What will become of the many buildings Chester College owns in the center of town is unknown at this point, but trustees and leadership will be busy in com-

ing weeks winding down operations.

Main spokespeople for faculty, staff and students, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Services

Laura Ives and Dean of Students Byron Petrakis could not be reached for comment before the Tri-Town Times went to press.

## Lions to Hold Memorial Day Service at Village Cemetery

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER - The Chester Lions Club will be holding its annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 28 at 9 a.m. The Lions have stepped up to organize the service for years. It will

again take place at the Revolutionary War Memorial next to the Village Cemetery.

Set to speak during the short event are state representative Gene Charron as well as Leslie Packard, who will represent the Lions Club and the American Legion. Reverend of the

Chester Congregational Baptist Church, Beverly Lindsey, will read the blessing and her husband Charlie Lindsey is set to sing a song.

Boy Scouts with Chester's Pack 163 will serve as honor guard.



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# Editorial

## A Day of Remembering

In the town squares and commons and historic cemeteries of New Hampshire, the statue of a Civil War soldier is a sight often taken for granted. But a vestige of that war remains part of our lives today, as we mark the occasion of Memorial Day this coming Monday.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed and observed in 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, as a time when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. Evidence of an even earlier day of remembrance comes from records of the decoration of Confederate soldiers' graves by women's groups in the South before the end of the Civil War. By 1890, the day, originally called Decoration Day, was recognized by all northern states, while the South honored its dead on a separate date.

Then came World War I, and the day changed to a time of remembrance throughout the country for all who gave their lives in military service to the United States.

Many more wars have taken the lives of American servicemen and

women since then, including the current war in Afghanistan. But even with the present-day fighting, it's easy to look at Memorial Day as just another chance for a three-day weekend, an extra day off from work and school, a time for barbecues and mowing the lawn and planting the flower garden.

We suggest a different focus.

Those Civil War statues, and the old cemeteries where tiny American flags stand vigil by graves, are visual reminders that thousands of lives have been given in the name of their nation's service - and more are at risk today. Memorial Day is a good time to think about what those familiar objects represent.

Ceremonies in our towns will center on the cemeteries and the statues, on the flags and the wreaths.

This Memorial Day, we encourage you to take time from your busy lives and your extra day of leisure to remember, and to thank those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as those who stand ready to do so today. And let us hope that sacrifice will someday no longer be necessary.

# Letters

## Road Improvements Voted Down

To the Editor

Last Saturday once again a Warrant Article at the Chester Town Meeting calling for major road improvements was defeated. It is my personal bias that a missed opportunity was squandered by a minority of voters because of three forces that converged to defeat the bond article that would have allowed the town to catch up on its badly deferred highway maintenance.

First of all the turnout of interested residence was minimal indicating a lack of interest and a "I could care less" attitude. What a shame that at the very core of the democracy that we hold so dear, where all legitimate residents can be heard and have the freedom to cast secret ballots, this is not taken seriously enough to set aside a few hours and exercising their right and privilege to vote.

Secondly, it appears that perhaps many have lived in larger communities where voting consists of electing officials who then decide which roads to fix and how much to expend. This may account for the apathy that prevails, and suggests that maybe we need a different form of government. But what a shame if we go in that direction, and what would our ancestors who argued and debated so vigorously at the old town meetings think about losing power to reach a consensus.

Thirdly, the Selectmen in their wisdom chose to present a warrant article calling for the purchase of a bond to fund the roadwork needed, a perfectly logical way to spread out the expense over a period of time, albeit at some additional cost of interest. But by doing this it seems that a 2/3 vote is required for pas-

sage, not a simple majority. Therefore, although most of those at the meeting voted affirmatively, not enough yes votes were cast. So a minority of the voters were allowed to hold back the progress of the town and keep things stalemated while costs go up and deterioration continues.

Finally I would point out that I thought the Road Agent presented a well spelled out plan and I believe he had carefully researched the costs, having done so several times over the past years. Furthermore he has been a good administrator and endeavored to work transparently and cooperatively with the Board of Selectmen during his years in office. While he has what may be his last year to serve as his present term runs out next year, I had hoped he could have attended to the projects covered by the road bond article before his time was up. Sadly, we missed our chance.

Web Anderson  
Chester

## Building Inspector

To the editor

I'm writing this letter in response to an article I read last week about the Sandown building inspector. We moved into Sandown 5 years ago, since then I've pulled many permits prior to building a large shed, a family room addition, a garage, finished a basement room... so my opinions on this topic are formed by multiple dealings with Ken Sherwood and his assistants. Ken has been over my house performing either rough or finish inspections on numerous occasions. Most of those inspections that Ken Sherwood performed were on the weekends, for the sole purpose of my convenience. There was one instance, last year, Ken

was out of town when I called for a rough inspection, I was directed by his answering machine recording to contact one of his assistants. I did just that and his assistant responded in a timely manner. I had another situation when I wanted to pull a permit but I was involved in a semester long course every Monday night. I explained my situation to Ken and we met at another time, again at my convenience. There have been times when I've unintentionally overlooked a code in my IRC book during the planning stages of a project and Ken would make me aware of it with a very educational commentary in the most professional and respectful manner. As a professional in manufacturing for 30 years, I'm well aware of the fact that these are changing times but I'm also aware that change, for the wrong reason, can be extremely counterproductive to the customer...in this case Sandown residents and local contractors. The present system and availability of the office have, in my experience and knowledge, been above and beyond my expectations. I felt compelled to express my satisfaction and concern that the voice of the minority does not speak for all. If there are complaints about the present building inspector and system, I ask who is complaining and what is their real agenda?

Dan Freitas  
Sandown

## Trouble with Zoning

To The Editor:

Over the years I have commented many times about the numerous poor decisions made by the Hampstead Board of Adjustment-poor in the sense that their decisions frequently have no basis in either

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Tri-Town Times welcomes letters on topics of local interest, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail letters to tri-towntimes@nutpub.net. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. Letters are limited to 500 words. The Tri-Town Times reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content and length, and anonymous letters will not be printed.

# 'Outside in Hampstead 2012' Scheduled for May 26

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD - The popular Conservation Commission sponsored "Outside in Hampstead" will go on for another season featuring many different outside activities available to residents who are encouraged to participate.

All through the spring, summer and fall, people can join Dr. Kevin Arling who every Wednesday at 6 p.m. will lead mountain bike outings. All levels of ability are welcome. People should plan to come a little early and meet at the West Road parking lot. Contact Arling at 327-7171.

On Saturday, May 26, at 1 p.m. Linda Ross will lead a one hour hike to the Blue Heron Rookery starting at

the Golden Meadow trail head. Ross suggests bringing binoculars, a hiking stick, tick spray and wearing waterproof boots. For more information you can contact Ross at LMGRoss4-9@yahoo.com.

On Sunday, August 26, from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. there will be an Art in Nature workshop that will feature nature sketching with local artist and Central School Art Teacher Michael Terrile. This workshop is designed for all levels of artists. Interested participants should meet at the West Road parking lot. The group will then hike a short distance into the Conservation area for a suitable artistic venue. Participants can bring their own supplies or they will be furnished. Join Terrile for a creative and

enjoyable morning of sketching nature on-site from direct observation. Contact Terrile at 329-4207 or email him at m.tertile@comcast.net so he'll know what to bring for supplies.

On Saturday, September 8, at 9 a.m. there will be A Mushroom Foraging Outing lead by Ross Huntington. Those wanting to go should meet at the end of Golden Meadow Road. Those who participate should bring a basket or paper bag and a knife for harvesting. The group will be out for 2 hours or less. Call Huntington at 329-4841 with any questions.

On Sunday, November 25 at 9 a.m. David Treat will be lead the annual after Thanksgiving "Turkey Buster" hike. Those interested

in joining Treat should meet at the West Road parking lot for a 2 hour romp both on and off trail around the West Road Conservation Area. Contact Treat at davidtreat@comcast.net

At all these "Outside in Hampstead" events and activities free trail maps will

be given to all participants for both Darby Brook and West Road Conservation areas. Both map sets consist of three maps, each 11x17 inches, printed in color on tear resistant waterproof paper. Each set includes an overview map of the entire area, and two more detailed

maps covering smaller areas. Maps are on sale for \$10 for either set of three, or \$15 for both sets and are always available at the Town Office Building. These maps are also available online as pdf files. These are formatted to be printed on 11x17 paper.

## Burglary Suspect Arrested in Derry

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD - According to Hampstead Police Lt. John Frazier, on March 6, a burglary occurred on Wheelwright Road. On Thursday, May 3, at roughly 10:45 a.m. Derry Police arrested Baylie Lecolst, 18, on a warrant issued by the Hampstead Police Department in connection with that burglary.

Lecolst, gave her address as 158 Fordway Extension,



Baylie Lecolst

Derry. After her arrest she was transported to Derry Police Department where she was held until she was picked up by Hampstead

Detective Bob Kelley and Officer Doug Mullin who brought her to the Hampstead Police Department for booking.

Her arrest was the result of an investigation by Detective Kelley tying her to the home of the victim and tracking pawned jewelry.

Lecolst has been charged with 5 counts of misdemeanor theft. She was released on \$2000 Personal Recognizance bail and she has a date to appear in Plaistow Court June on 18.

## Letters

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Hampstead Zoning Ordinances or State Statutes.

For example, last year an applicant requested the board to grant him a variance based on personal and financial hardship and the board voted 3/2 to grant it even though that type of hardship does not count. Based on my request and some unhappiness of their own with the decision the Board of Selectmen voted 3/0 to request a rehearing at which all 5 members suddenly decided there was no hardship shown by the

applicant and overturned their original; decision 5/0.

On Jan. 5, 2012, the Board voted 3 to 2 to grant a special exception and variance to an applicant who already had a house, two car garage and a swimming pool on his lot and now wanted a 24'x32' accessory building, who claimed he had a lot of ledge, but if his property is suitable for the purpose for which it is zoned, there is no hardship and no variance should be granted.

And now we have an applicant who wants to build a 40'x60' accessory building and the ZBA has

devoted much time to considering this request which strikes me as a waste of time.

The Hampstead Zoning Ordinance defines an Accessory Building or Use: "A building or use subordinate to the main building or use and customarily incidental to the main purpose of such building or use." Unless the house is 15000 sq. ft. or larger I find it hard to believe this request will meet the definition of accessory building or use. To comply with the definition, the tail cannot wag the dog!

Ed Lanpher  
East Hampstead, NH

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# Chester Looks Forward to New and Improved State Testing

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER - While Chester Academy did not make Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) according to predetermined goals set forth by the state under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, the state Department of Education has backed off putting any weight on the designation. Nevertheless, Chester students scored better on this year's New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) tests than last year's students did. The NECAPs are used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress.

Overall the school showed 94 percent proficiency on the reading portion of the test, compared to last year's 93.6 percent. And students scored 91.1 percent proficient on the math test, com-

pared to last year's 90.7 percent. Those figures cover all students at Chester Academy, both regular education and special education students.

With such a high percentage of students showing proficiency, improvement can come slowly. That scenario is one of the main problems educators have with the test. No Child Left Behind requires 100 percent proficiency by 2014, and each year the bar is raised in an effort to meet that goal. And 71 percent of the schools in New Hampshire are failing to meet AYP.

Interim superintendent Jim Gaylord said the program is overly punitive, as even when schools are showing improvement, they are labeled in such a way that suggests they are doing just the opposite. In addition,

certain students whose demographic indicates that they'll struggle with the test are counted in the school's proficient percentage more than those whose demographic indicates they'll perform well.

Chester Academy uses the tests to help students progress, but does not rely heavily on its findings, preferring to instead focus on nationalized and better vetted tests.

Last year Chester Academy was one of the schools to take the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) tests, which help educators see where their students are performing in comparison with the rest of the country. Just as it did last year, New Hampshire is again at the top of national student performance.

The NAEP program, often referred to as "The Nation's Report Card," assesses student performance on the state and national level and has been in use in some form since 1969. It's governed by the National Assessment Governing Board and is conducted by the National Center for Educational Statistics, part of the U.S. Department of Education. As the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know, it aims to track progress from year to year and serve as a common metric for student ability.

The test is administered to fourth and eighth grade students in randomly selected schools. On this year's math test, grade four stu-

dents in New Hampshire outperformed all others except those in Massachusetts, but only by one percentage point. New Hampshire grade four students were third nationwide in reading, behind Massachusetts and New Jersey.

On the math test, New Hampshire's grade eight students were again at the top, but were surpassed by five other states. On the math test they were eighth when compared to the rest of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Principal Leslie Leahy lauded the ability for the national standardized tests to let educators know how their students are performing against their peers.

She added that while testing is an important measure of progress and

student ability the school still relies most heavily on those who know the kids the best, their parents. The school is looking to see each student grow, and the best way to do that is by paying attention to each child.

A new test in the works to replace the NECAP seeks to do just that, said Gaylord and Leahy. It will measure individual student progress over the course of the year, and is a method they both support.

"We look for growth, and in the long term we want them (the students) at the same level," said Leahy. She added that all students don't understand the same information at the same time, and to indicate that those kids are somehow failing because of that is unfair to them and their parents.

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## Hampstead is Set For Memorial Day Celebration

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD: Memorial Day is celebrated in Hampstead every year starting at 11 a.m. The event will be held at the bandstand on the Old Meeting House

Field behind town hall if the weather is fair, and if it's raining it will move inside at the Veteran's Memorial Gym at the corner of West and Stage Road.

The Pinkerton Academy Junior ROTC Color Guard will be there to post the colors and to help with the laying of wreaths at the various memorials. There will be patriotic songs by the Hampstead Central School Chorus under the direction of Cindi Verrill

and Natalie Gallo will sing at least one patriotic song. Other local dignitaries will participate in the celebration. The Pinkerton Academy Junior ROTC members hand out small American flags as the residents and friends assemble for the celebration. The Master of Ceremonies for this annual event is Ret. U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Howie Steadman, ROTC director for Pinkerton Academy.

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# Fines to Be Issued on June 1 for Unlicensed Dogs

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Dog owners are reminded that if they don't register their pooches before June 1 they'll be responsible for a civil forfeiture of \$25 for each dog, a sum, which if not paid, could lead to an appearance in court.

Town clerk/tax collector Barbara Gagnon has been urging dog owners to get the licensing out of the way to avoid the state mandated forfeiture (plus a \$1 a month late fee) but she estimates that there are still about 200 dogs out there without their 2012 tags.

According to the last official count there are more

than 900 dogs in town.

According to state law, canines needed to be licensed by April 30, but Gagnon instituted a one month grace period, to conclude on Thursday, May 31.

Dogs may be registered in-person at the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office, electronically or by mail. For an application or e-registra-

tion guidelines visit [www.chesternh.org](http://www.chesternh.org). You'll need to send vaccination certificate, spayed/neutering certificate, check for the correct amount and a self-addressed envelope to the office.

The cost is \$9 for unaltered males or females, \$6.50 for spayed and neutered dogs and for seniors (65 or older) the first dog is \$2,

but the regular fee follows.

According to NH law, "Whoever is the owner or keeper of a dog and who fails to license or renew the dog license pursuant to RSA 466:1 shall forfeit \$25 to the town or city clerk of the municipality in which the dog is kept. If the forfeiture is not made to the town or city clerk within 15 calen-

dar days of the notice of forfeiture, the case may be disposed of in a district court as a violation with a fine not to exceed \$50, notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 651:2, IV. A forfeiture shall not relieve the owner or keeper of the requirement of proper licensing of the dog as required by RSA 466:1.

# Civic Club Plans Unveiling Ceremony for New Scoreboard

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Veterans Memorial Gym's new scoreboard has been installed and the old one removed as the Civic Club plans a formal unveiling and acknowledgement of the principal donors on Friday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m. The gym is located at the corner of Stage and West Road. The two donor companies to be honored are New Hampshire Orthopedics and Small World Wireless.

The T-shirt winner for the 2012 Summer Recreation T-shirt design will be a combination of two of the five submissions. The winning designs were submitted by Sophia Martineau, grade one, Hampstead Central School and Abby Georgoudis, grade three at

Hampstead Central School.

Sign-up for the Summer Recreation program will be held at the Town Hall on June 4th from 6 to 8 p.m. Recreation Director Angie Ingraham said that all forms and information are on line.

The Town Beach opens on Saturday and will be open weekends until school closes June 19th when it will open up weeks and week days. Parents should be aware that the Recreation Commission has instructed

life guards their primary concern is the water and those in the water, not children playing on the rope or the rocks in the drainage swale. Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to keep kids off the rope and away from the rocks. The second and final phase of the drainage and control of run-off has yet to begin so won't be completed as hoped before Memorial Day. The date when the work will be done will be

announced at a later date.

The new signs asking people to pick up after their dogs, to carry out whatever they bring in to the Depot Roads Fields Complex will be posted this coming week. There will be one at the playground restricting dogs from that area and reminding folks this is a carry out what you carry in park. Another sign will be at the entrance and one each at the softball and baseball fields. If the issue with peo-

ple failing to pick-up after their dogs isn't resolved it may come to restricting dogs from the fields.

The people who want a skateboard park still hoping to come up with the money needed to build one. The Recreation Commission hasn't heard from the committee and while there is room at Depot Fields to accommodate a skateboard park, none of the required survey and site plan work has been done and won't be

until the skateboard committee returns to the Recreation Commission with assurances that the money is in hand and site plans being sought.

The Recreation Commission was shocked at the heating bills being paid for the Veterans Memorial Gym building, often reaching as much as \$1,000 a month. The situation is going to be looked into to see if there is a problem that can be addressed.

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# Hampstead Public Library Appoints New IT Librarian

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD - The Hampstead Public Library has a new IT Librarian.

After receiving multiple applications and conducting interviews, Library Director Deb Heitt recommended to the Board of Trustees Wednesday night that they approve her hiring of Kate Thomas, an Assistant Librarian at the HPL, for the IT Librarian position. The board unanimously approved the appointment of Thomas. She has been filling the position on an interim basis since longtime IT Librarian Linda Skidmore retired and will assume the position officially, effective immediately.

Heitt reported that the Department of Labor Report that listed three things the library that needed to correct had been received and those issues immediately resolved. One involved the disposal of a floor buffer with a frayed cord; another was pallets stacked on edge needed to be laid flat on the floor in the basement; and, the required three foot clearance around the fuse box be clearly delineated, which is being done with colored tape.

She told the board that Primex Insurance plans to visit the library and conduct an ergonomic study and that the planned auditor's visit to the library has been changed from May 7 to June 4.

A third computer has been relocated to the circulation desk to help provide the best possible patron service. Heitt said she would like to consider down the road perhaps developing a self-checkout system.

The Library is pleased to have had the installation of a lovely Memorial Bench honoring Thelma Martin placed in the Storybook Garden by the Hampstead Garden Club. The Martin family has done many things for the library over the years and the Trustees were pleased about the bench.

Heitt said she was disappointed that there have been no applications for the open Alternate Trustee position. The position will

remain open until someone steps forward.

Trustee Emily Reschberger said the best way for someone to get a feel for what the position involves is to attend a Trustee's meeting or speak with the library director. Application forms are available at the front desk and the Trustees and Heitt encourage anyone interested to please contact them.

In addition, Heitt said two Library Page positions were open and she had been conducting interviews with interested individuals. She said she planned to make a decision on who would be appointed in the near future. The two new pages would be trained by the remaining longtime page. One would

be working for 5 and ? hours while the other would get 20 hours. The remaining page will be departing at summer's end to go to college. The pages' salary would be determined but Heitt said it would be commensurate with experience and it would be competitive.

The Trustees voted unanimously to approve Councilmen Electric's bid of \$3,675 to replace the first floor and basement emergency lights. The new system would be maintenance free units and the basement wet cell system would be eliminated. While there Heitt plans to have Councilmen check the front outside light which was previously fixed by Building and

Grounds Steve Harms but which is again not working properly. The assumption is the problem is weather related but if it needs further work Councilmen will do it and send the bill to Harms.

The Trustees acknowledged the gift of \$1,850 from the Mother's Club for the Interactive Mural being drawn on the Children's Program Room wall.

"We are grateful and very appreciative of the Mother's Club gift," said Reschberger. "This is a really very dynamic mural and we are excited at having it in the Children's Program Room. We are extremely pleased with the progress artist Melissa Squires is making with the mural."

# Hampstead Our World Club Turns to Charitable Giving

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD - Our World Club at Hampstead Middle School is one way for students to learn about the world, and through interaction with people from other places, to learn more about their place in society.

This year, club members have been looking at supporting various charities as a way to broaden their understanding of people

across the globe in need of assistance.

Recently Our World sponsored a Hat Day to benefit the New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NHSPCA), which is based in Stratham. A week-long fundraising drive, May 7 through May 11, collected items the NHSPCA needs to help maintain and support the animals brought there for care.

Club facilitator Sue

Handy said, "At the Hampstead Middle School, we have a paraprofessional, Robin Currier, who is a longtime volunteer at the NHSPCA facility. She spoke with our group a few weeks ago. As a result, one of our sixth grader students came up with the idea for a fundraiser and drive."

During the winter, the club also held a Hat Day, that one to raise money to send used books to the Mississippi Teachers Project.

"Our Hat Day raised enough so we were able to send three boxes of books to rural schools that have little or no budget for reading books," she said. "Prior to that, thanks to David Moquin, son of HMS teacher Lynn Moquin, who is currently affiliated with the Mississippi Teachers Project, we became aware of a critical need for pencils and pens in the rural schools of Mississippi. Our World held an in-club drive and ended up sending 100 or so pen-

cils and pens to David for use in his classroom."

One of the goals of the club is to teach students about things that are happening beyond the borders of Hampstead and the United States but it also focuses on hunger, poverty, educational needs, and cruelty to animals.


Comments from the students indicate the club's goals are being met.

Alyssa Felder said, "I think it's nice that we're helping people and animals

that have less than we do. It's important that they feel they have the support of someone who can help them."

Alison Kaiser said, "I like the feeling of helping under-privileged people and pets."

And Jess Wilson added, "Helping people and animals makes me feel like I'm part of the cause to help make the world a better place."



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# History Experienced Up Close and Personal

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Hampstead Middle School Social Studies Teacher Katie Wolff has taken students on history-oriented trips over the years, and this year's trip took eighth graders and their parents and chaperones to the heart of America's historical roots.

Starting in Philadelphia, at Freedom Hall, here is the trip through the eyes of some the students.

CJ LaCreta said, "Over two hundred years ago a group of gallant men gathered in a tense, hot room of Independence Hall, searching for something all Americans still cherish today, freedom. A few weeks ago, my classmates and I took a trip to the historically rich city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The bus ride to get there was tough, but Independence Hall was the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow for me... The guide asked,

'Do you think the front hall was restored?' I thought NO!, it wasn't, and when she confirmed my answer a smile spread across my face with pure joy, because I knew that I would be walking down the same hall our founding fathers walked to freedom. We entered the room of beautiful architecture. This was a dream come true for me and I'm sure others in my group had the same idea. The first section to grace us with its remarkable history was the judicial courtroom. This is

where many of the first Americans were dually processed under recent establishment of law by the Constitution. As tourists from other nations took pictures like piranhas fighting over prey, I stepped back a moment and smelled the scent of a country being born I could taste freedom in the air and the beautiful rush of history."

Joey Dumais writes about Independence Hall.

"I went to Independence Hall, the very foundation of liberty and freedom. After a six hour bus ride, I found myself looking at a brick building looming over me with a clock tower where the Liberty Bell once was reaching for the sky between 5th and 6th streets in the old capital of the United States. Large windows covered the building like stripes on a zebra and they glistened with drops of the rain beating against the glass. The air in Philadelphia was thick with the smell of gas from the many vehicles bustling about. I could almost taste the liberty in the air over all else, despite the many distractions. Upon entering the building, the flashes of cameras were shooting off and it was relatively loud as my tour group moved. The beaten wood creaked under our feet as we moved past furniture that seemed to be frozen in time. Everyone was astounded...When I was in the room where some of the greatest characters not only in American history, but world history

were made, I felt what I can only describe as being overwhelmed. I sensed the ideas of freedom, independence, equality, and liberty. I touched where the founding fathers had touched and I felt their presence lingering throughout the building as their ideas lingered throughout time. It made me feel small, like an asteroid lost in space.... I was in awe of the national historic site and the rest of the Independence National Historic Park. I didn't get to stay long, but just moments in that building moved me and the people around me, some of whom had come from other countries just to see this powerful site. The events that took place in that building in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania changed the world."

Jeremy Bedard speaks about the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

"The sounds of ooh's and ahh's quickly turn to silence as ferry passengers see beautiful Lady Liberty, and admire America's historic Golden Door, Ellis Island. This copper structure is a symbol of America's pride and accomplishment. The Statue of Liberty towers on the historical land named Liberty Island...A very important piece in this area is Ellis Island, home of the immigration center. This Isle of Hope has been special to many families because this was the largest processing station for immigrants to be accepted in to the USA. Without Ellis Island, many people would

have never stepped foot into the United States. The floor panels of the buildings on Ellis Island have carried people from countries all over the world. The Immigration Building was a new beginning to many and just the beginning of the Island's successes. The Statue of Liberty was a welcoming figure that the immigrants would see when they first entered the United States of America... It's interesting for me that something that displays such American pride was made in another country. The beauty of Lady Liberty is captured by thousands every year... The Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island are two very promises, and places to our nation's history. The statue displays pride and Ellis Island displays hope and accomplishment of America's immigrants. After all, that is what this is about, America's people."

And an emotional stop at Ground Zero is described by Danielle Kuhl and Ashley Iannuzzi.

Kuhl writes, "It's in its own little area. Outside of the hustle and bustle, the cars honking, thousands of people roaming the streets. It's in its own calm, tranquil spot. It is beautiful, and it will always be America's...When I walked into the memorial for the first time, I WANTED to walk in there. There was a curiosity within me that wanted to be

there for those who lost someone close to them. Within the moment of entering and leaving, there were so many emotions rushing through me. I walked in on the pavement, stepped into this space and turned my head. This place held love, sorrow, fear, and peacefulness. I glanced at the bright, green baby trees, the beautiful, freshly paved walkway and seeing benches that matched them, but most of all, I noticed a fresh tear on the ground next to a family comforting each other. I looked at the family for a long time, while taking in everything around me. At this moment in time, I could physically feel the love, the friendliness, the security of everything and everyone around me... Knowing that this place is very real, what has happened is very real. This place inspires me the most because of the passion, love, and comfort. Even though it was a place of disaster, hatred, and fear, it has turned into a place of remembrance. The 9-11 Memorial is a place of comfort, closure, and what makes it amazing, is that it brings people together. Not a lot of things do that, bring a nation together in remembrance. That's what makes this beautiful, inspiring, and so special to me."

Iannuzzi added her thoughts saying, "A cold tingle reaches your finger

tips as they fall into the engraved letters that spell out a name. A name that causes eyes to trickle water and stomachs to tighten. A name of a firefighter, a worker, a friend, or a loved one who is no longer here today. Your eyes focus on the pools of flowing water that lead to the underground. Ten years ago on September 11th, America was challenged to pick ourselves out of the debris, but today we rebuild our nation as one. Standing in Lower Manhattan New York City are the two new tremendous tough towers that rebuild our hope...The first thing we all wanted to see where the two pools of water. I walked over and looked down at the waterfalls cascading. Surrounding the pools were plaques with what looked like thousands of names carved. Underneath the names was a small indent of water, and I reached out and laid a finger under the fresh water... What happened that day was horrendous and alarming, but today we get a new taste of freedom that was long overdue. The memorial has helped us put the puzzle pieces of hope back together. Now I believe that America has owned the title of America the Beautiful."

It was two tough travel and sightseeing days for the students, but an experience that will last a lifetime.



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# Saturday Sees Second Successful Wason Pond Pounder

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER — Approximately 800 participants filled the trails, field and pond at the Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Area Saturday as they took on the obstacles of the

second Wason Pond Pounder. Though only rough estimates are in of the proceeds, the event will likely turn out to be the most successful fundraiser the Chester Field of Dreams Committee has organized.

The first Wason Pond Pounder was run last Octo-

ber and pulled in more than 500 runners and more than \$17,000.

It was a good day all around, said Chester Field of Dreams secretary Maria Veale. Though it was a busy day, the weather cooperated, runners enjoyed themselves and the community

came out in large numbers in support.

Veale estimated that 70 to 80 volunteers helped make the event a success. People just come out of the woodwork to help, she said.

"The amount of support from the community has been tremendous," said Veale.

That support buttresses the group's goal of building playing fields on the front field of the Wason Pond area. It's a goal that will see a start later this year because town meeting voters overwhelmingly supported matching \$45,000 from the Chester Field of Dreams with tax dollars.

All of the group's funds will go to supporting the fields, but the initial \$90,000 will create a level, green and well-drained playing surface.

A meaningful draw for some of Saturday's runners was the Branden Myers memorial wave at 1 p.m. Friends and family ran in support of the young Chester man who lost his life in a car crash last December.

The entire Pounder was dedicated to Branden Myers, a good athlete who loved to run and competed in cross country and track at Pinkerton Academy.

Both Branden's parents Glenn and Darlene Myers completed the course in celebration of their son and were well received by spectators as they came in to the finish line.

The best time of the event was pulled in by a runner in the Myers wave. Reportedly one of Branden's closest friends, Joseph Trujillo, completed the course in just under 23 minutes.

Trujillo beat out the president of Chester Field of Dreams, David Veale, who earned the best time in October.

Donations collected at the event plus registration proceeds from the memorial wave will all go to the Branden Myers Memorial Fund.

About 800 participants pre-registered for the Pounder and another 50 registered the day of. There were some no shows however, so rough estimates put



Chester residents Derek Hiscox, left, and Colby Day made their way through the tough part of the course.



Joseph Trujillo had the fastest time at the Wason Pond Pounder course, finishing in 22:56. He was running in memory of his friend Branden Myers.



Hurdles were just one of the tough obstacles set up throughout the Wason Pond Pounder event on Saturday May 19.

Photos by Chris Paul

the number of competitors runners. According to Maria Veale, with that kind of turnout it will be difficult

Many of the competitors had previously taken part, but there were many new runners. According to Maria Veale, with that kind of turnout it will be difficult not to hold a third Pounder next year.




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# Community History on Parade

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The second graders at the Hampstead Central School hold a celebratory parade honoring Hampstead Community history followed by a Community Presentation.

The Second Graders and their teachers march around the school carrying a banner depicting the community and its history. The “parade” is the kick-off to the performance. Hampstead Police and Fire Department vehicles join the children in their celebratory parade. Also marching are representatives from the Hampstead School Board and Board of Selectman - as well as town historian Maury Randall. As well as the school’s mascot.

Each classroom has taken pictures, drawn pictures, made posters and flags and these are proudly displayed as the parade inches around the Central School. Marchers include staff, teachers, Selectmen and other local dignitaries. It is a grand way for the unit on Hampstead Community History to end. After the parade parents and friends can visit the classrooms to see all of the work the second graders have done on this unique and important unit.

The youngsters enjoy the opportunity to display their work and even more to take part in something that draws

so much community attention and support every year. The rest of the school body, students, teachers, and staff, come outside and line the parade route cheering and enjoying what the students are displaying – Hampstead History on Parade.

The unit studies the history of the community and the youngsters learn about the main historical and governmental buildings in town. It is a wonderful way for the students to become engaged in Hampstead today

having learned through this unit how Hampstead has grown and prospered through the years.

Everyone loves a parade. Many people love history so what possible better combination can be achieved than linking these as the second graders do each year, paying homage to their community as they celebrate its history and their connection to it.

After the parade the Community Presentation is a culminating event of an entirely integrated “Com-

munity-themed” unit involving classroom study, art, music, PE, technology and guidance. Classroom teachers and Unified Arts teachers work collaboratively - teaching grade two students about “community” through each of their specialty disciplines. The end result is the work and performance presented on the day of the “Community Presentation”.

Following the parade, students and parents enter the HCS multipurpose room for the presentation/art show/classroom projects portion of the event. Students perform community themed dances and songs – with community-themed art work and projects decorating the performance space.



Second graders at Hampstead Central School perform a square dance during their celebration of the community last week.  
Photos by Chris Paul



Second graders at Hampstead Central Elementary School paraded around their school last week to show community pride.



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# Seventh and Eighth Graders Enjoy a Tropical Oasis at their Semi-Formal

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER - A twilight tropical island arrived at Chester Academy for the

seventh and eighth grader's semi-formal. The kids got flower leis as they entered the school, the entrance to the gym was flanked with giant Tiki statues, mouths agape with dancing tissue paper flame, drinks were given out from beneath the grasses of a Tiki hut in brightly colored Tiki cups, and those cups were

marked with the kids' given names and their chosen Hawaiian names.

There were palm trees and string lights and a giant projection screen hanged from the stage that showed gently rolling waves in the sunset.

All were impressed with the surroundings, from students to teachers and parents.

Between making and serving punch for a steady stream of dance-worn kids, seventh grade teacher Jen Bougie echoed many when she said that she had never seen the semi-formal surroundings so well done.

Teachers, administrators and parents alike helped make the dance a success. Music teacher Kurt Schweiss has chaperoned the dance multiple times and he remarked that each year the kids seem to get better behaved.

It was a busy night, and testament to that was the sheer amount of punch gone through. A slushy machine was also taxed pretty hard.

The kids chose the



Most of Chester Academy's seventh and eighth graders spent at least some time at their semi-formal dancing and here, led by DJ Sharon Mulrennan, the kids take part in an impromptu line dance.

theme, "Tropical Oasis" and parents, led by Katie Gonya, took it from there. All gave credit to the creativity of Gonya in setting the area up, but she gave the credit to a lot of fellow dedicated parents.

Freshwater Farms also donated plants and flowers to add to the atmosphere.

Photographer Pamella Pitman took pictures of the students, many in large groups of their friends. She

brought in surfboards and other props to make sure the photos matched the theme. The students were well prepared for their night, and their pictures, as they were dressed in their finest.

DJ Sharon Mulrennan kept the very energetic dancers dancing, and to take a look through the crowd it was clear that all were having a great time, from slow dance line-ups to impromptu conga lines.



Chester Academy seventh and eighth graders take time out from dancing and hanging out with friends during their semi-formal to get drinks from the cafeteria's new Tiki hut. Teachers Jen Bougie, Joanna Shreiber and Leann Nelson had a very busy night behind the table serving the tropical drinks. *Photos by Matt Rittenhouse*

## 201

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## Clothes Closet's Young Volunteers Recognized

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER - A few of the many kids that volunteer at the Chester Clothes Closet were on hand at Town Meeting to accept the town's thanks for their efforts. Barbara Dolloff, along with a crew of adults, runs the Closet, which offers clothing of all types for all comers.

From its origins in 2010 until now the Closet has grown to take up two former class rooms in the municipal building and has

become a veritable department store of free clothing. The two rooms focus on warm and cold weather, and residents and neighbors in need can find everything from shoes to pants to hats.

As part of the Closet's larger mission, Dolloff and her compatriots have encouraged volunteerism from young people, and the kids (and their parents) have really stepped up. Dolloff has no end of praise for the kids and is especially pleased because of the value she puts on volunteerism; of

neighbor helping neighbor.

"It's just awesome," she said, adding that the kids get better at their work each day. She added that having kids learn at a young age the value of volunteerism, of affecting a better world, was the key to inspiring such activity throughout a life.

The kids received certificates and Chester, NH t-shirts with 'Volunteer' emblazoned on them at town meeting after Dolloff thanked them, their parents and the community at large for their continued support.

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# Hampstead Garden Club Beautifies the Community

PENNY WILLIAMS  
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Ever since 1979, the Hampstead Garden Club has been committed and dedicated to improving the town's public green space by creating and maintaining a wide variety of beautification projects at important civic sites. These 'special garden' areas are tended by club members with each served by a committee headed by an experienced Hampstead Garden Club member. The 'special gardens' are weeded, watered, nurtured and lovingly cared for year round.

On a crisp, bright spring day Hampstead Garden Club members gathered to wake up the public gardens in their town. The club plants and maintains nine 'special gardens' in town.

They volunteer their time that turns out to be approximately 2 hours a month to beautify the town from early spring to the end of the growing season.

One of the major gardens they tend is the triangle at the center of town called Sign Island as it has the rustic Town of Hampstead, New Hampshire sign on it. As people travel along Main Street, that beautiful garden greets community members and visitors with its symphony of colors.

Another large garden spot is Ordway Park where members garden on a grand scale. Many public events are held at the park and the gardens are a centerpiece to any event.

One of the 'special gardens' is located at the Hampstead Public Library. It is called the Storybook

Garden. This garden is so lovely that prom and wedding pictures are often taken at that spot.

The Story Book Garden at the library was conceived, designed, funded, and planted in 1993 by the Hampstead Garden Club and has been continually maintained by club. The club applied for and won a Shell Oil grant of \$1,000 that was used as seed money for the creation of the garden. The club also put in \$ 1,000 and there was a fund raising campaign.

Linda Winmill said, "I don't recall exactly, but I believe we had a total of \$3,500 or more to create the garden. There is a plaque on the library wall listing those who gave donations."

The club designed the garden layout, purchased



Hampstead Garden Club members started early and worked hard during one recent morning waking up and preparing various gardens around town for spring. The group is pictured gathered in the library's Storybook Garden preparing to start the spring wake-up process there.

soil, hired an excavation company to create the flower beds, purchased the fence and had a club member's husband install the fence. The club purchased all the plants or received them as donations from member's gardens. The garden bench with trellis and the arbor at the entrance were also purchased and installed by the club. The children's librarian has held "story book times" in the gardens, reading to the children and doing art projects ever since.

In 2010 the original fence had given all it could give. The Friends of the Library and the Hampstead Garden Club joined forces and pooled their resources to fund the purchase of the supplies to put up a new fence. Jon Worthen and Town Highway Depart-

ment along with and Building and Grounds Department, headed by Steve Harms, removed all of the old fencing. These departments always help the garden club whenever special assistance is needed.

"Then local experts Paul Wentworth and Chip Hastings donated their time and expertise to put up the beautiful new fence," said Winmill. "Kent Michaelson, husband of HGC member Mary Ann Michaelson, made the gate with arbor and the sitting arbor. This was truly a community effort and just recently, long time Hampstead resident Thelma Martin passed away. The garden club, library and her family worked together on a memorial bench that was installed in the garden in May.

This beautiful garden is

open to everyone, adults and children alike to enjoy the flowers, read a book, photograph the flowers, do painting or other art projects.

Smaller but just as important are the gardens at the Veteran's Memorials, Shop Pond Park, the Fire Station sign planter, the Police station, the Old Meeting House and the Historical Museum.

Cindy Lanoutte urges anyone interested in gardening or in learning about flowers and gardening to become part of contributing to the beauty of Hampstead by joining Hampstead Garden Club. For more information go to [www.hampsteadgarden.org](http://www.hampsteadgarden.org) or call

Joanne VanderSande at 603-382-5177 or email Phyllis Leocha at [pleocha@gmail.com](mailto:pleocha@gmail.com) for details.



## Chester Girl Cagers Drive to a Championship

The Chester Rockers' girls' basketball squad enjoyed some kind of 2011-12 season in the Lamprey River Basketball League's 7/8 division. And when it was over, the Rockers were champions. The squad finished in first place in the regular season with an exceptional, 9-1 record. At the league championship contest, the squad managed a 25-16 victory and carried off the league title. The Rockers' team members were Veronica Sullivan, Shannon Webb, Lexi Leger, Carolyn St. Peter, Jennah Berman, Jessie Young, Chloe Pacocha, Alexis Reishus, Miranda Rossignol, Samantha Wallis, Becka Desmarais, and Kyra Stariknok. The champs were represented in the Lamprey River Skills Competition by Berman, Pacocha, Leger, and Reishus. And all four girls walked away with trophies. Berman and Reishus took first places in the team shooting contest. They scored a total of 20 points in just one minute. This is the second consecutive year that the talented pair finished in first place. Leger and Pacocha both ended up placing in the speed dribbling/lay-up contest. Leger finished in third place and Pacocha came in fourth.

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# NH's Sacrifice to be Recounted During Sandown Memorial Day Service

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN- Usually for Sandown's well attended Memorial Day service, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Kevin Major delves into the story of one service member who lost their life fighting in one of the United States' wars. But this year he will account for that sacrifice in a more general way, by tallying NH's contribution as a whole to the war on terrorism.

Year after year Major

makes real the sacrifice of all of the country's service members by relating the story of one individual. He learns all that he can about that person, whether through historical record, newspaper clippings, social media or by speaking with friends and family. Through that work Major tells the story of a life. It can be a moving experience for those in the crowd, especially as it's clear that Major knows, understands and feels for the people he

speaks about.

This year will be a bit different, but likely no less moving. While there are many ways to account for the number of NH dead in wars predicated on the attacks of Sept. 11, Major is tallying more than 50 of them. That's 50 plus stories he could tell, but there simply isn't time, so instead he'll relate some short anecdotes, and to create a more thorough understanding of the sacrifice he has grouped those 50 into various cate-

gories by statistics and other data. Data from age to rank to marriage status to whether they had children. There are some interesting correlations, he said.

"I'm hoping to give people the range and depth of the casualties from NH," said Major. "What has been NH's cost?"

The service, to take place at the Center Cemetery, will also see the recognition of all military veterans in attendance.

The service will be pre-

ceded by a parade down Main Street and a brief stop at the War Monument at town hall.

Parade line-up is at 11:30 a.m. at the Sandown Train Depot with the start of the parade to begin promptly at 12 p.m. The Timberlane Middle School Marching Band will provide music for the march. All local organizations, political officials, veterans, etc. are encouraged to participate.

All children are invited to take part, and are encouraged to decorate their bicy-

cle or wagon, or to dress in patriotic colors.

Children can also participate when the parade stops at the War Monument at town hall. They are encouraged to lay at the monument, wreaths, flowers drawings, flags or anything else they feel would be an appropriate tribute to Sandown's war veterans.

Groups or individuals wishing to take part in the parade and service should contact, LTC(ret) Kevin Major at 887-5442.

# Chester Hoopsters Keep Piling Up the Victories

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
Tri-Town Times

It would seem that the town of Chester can boast of some of the finest young basketball players in the state, if not the region.

And after winning middle school and Manchester Suburban Basketball League

titles this year, the Chester eighth grade hoop group added to its cache of hardware – while now being known as the Granite State Gladiators – by winning the recent Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) state championship.

The immensely skilled young squad has gone a glit-

tering 27-0 in its present incarnation as the Gladiators, with a perfect 5-0 showing at the state tourney which has earned the cagers a trip to the AAU national tournament in Orlando, Fla., in July.

The Chester hoopsters rolled into the state tournament with a 22-0 record thanks to victories over opponents from every one of the New England states.

The locals put forth a dramatic and wildly impressive comeback in the title game of the state event, coming back from four points down with just 30 seconds left to claim the championship.

The 15 members of the team include Mike Bailey, Vincenzo Bufalino, Tim



The Chester Gladiators are headed south to the AAU national tournament in Orlando, Fla. The team is 27-0, and some of its players have had an impressive run in winning three basketball championships this year (middle school, MSBL, AAU NH states). Those cagers have recorded over 100 victories this year.

Comeau, Nathan Cote, Michael Curley, Michael Horak, Dominick Lander,

Tyler Lennon, Brayden Luke Rosinski, Conner Merino, Matthew Mulligan, Walsh, and Jerrell Webster. Ben Olson, Tommy Romick,

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# Sandown Police's Firearm Safety Class Covers Gun Law and Use

MATT RITTENHOUSE  
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN- Those that attended the Sandown Police Department's Firearm Safety Class earlier this month left with a much fuller understanding of not only what NH's laws around gun ownership and the use of firearms are, but also of how to protect themselves and their family if it ever came to that.

The program, held at the Ed Garvey Recreation Center, saw about two dozen individuals come out. Police chief Joe Gordon and his officers agreed that it was a good turnout for the important class. The program was one of many the department has been hosting in recent months, led by Sgt.

Scott Wood.

The approximately two hour presentation was two pronged, with speaker Scott Jenkins focusing on the proper use of firearms and local attorney Don Blaszkas giving a solid overview of the NH laws that cover that usage.

Though Jenkins, who runs Armed Citizen Training LLC, discussed the steps that should be taken if one finds themselves the victim of a home invasion or an attack, he stressed that the goal is to never have to use your gun, and he discussed how to de-escalate confrontation. He talked about avoiding, evading and diffusing situations before they became physical confrontations and about letting the police do their jobs because

there was no need for a citizen to play the hero.

That being said, if you're going to carry a firearm, Jenkins remarked, you need to know how to use it to the best of your ability. He focused on the importance of fully understanding one's gun and practicing with it to become familiar with its use.

"We want to train and know how to handle it and never use it. That would be perfect," said Jenkins.

Jenkins gave tips on how to prepare a home for the event of a break-in. There should be a known location, a safe room, that all go to in the case of an invasion and the process of getting there in an emergency should be practiced just like fire drills are practiced. Jenkins dis-

cussed how to situate everyone in the room, including children, and how to act should someone attempt to enter that room. He stressed that a phone needs to be accessible on which to call the police, not only to alert emergency responders, but to make sure 911 is recording everything that happens, in the case that deadly force needs to be used to protect oneself or one's family.

Jenkins remarked that unless life is in jeopardy it makes no sense to confront a burglar over a TV or other material item, because those things can be replaced.

Jenkins admitted that statistics indicate that no one in the audience would ever have to handle such a dire situation and that there

is a fine line between preparation and paranoia, but regardless, he believed in being very prepared.

Next up was Blaszkas, who, while outlining NH law, kept the mood light and attendees laughing. Important to Blaszkas's explanations of the law was the lack of black and white answers it offered. There can be arguments for and against most actions, but Blaszkas stressed that the courts weigh heavily the idea of 'reasonableness' when it comes to the use of deadly or non-deadly force and that common sense should always be employed when it comes to firearms and their display.

Reviewed were laws on deadly and non-deadly force, how the law justifies use of force depending on the situation, when it is appropriate to reveal a concealed weapon and when it is not, and the effect of recent court cases and legislation on the use of firearms.

Noted was a recent deci-

sion by the NH state legislature that removed the need for a person to retreat from a confrontation outside their own property.

While in the past a person was only not required to retreat from their home or property in a situation where their life or a third person's life was in danger, a new law states that they do not need to retreat from "anywhere he or she has the right to be."

The law is so new (it went into effect on Nov. of 2011) that Blaszkas knew of no case law that illuminated it.

Also reviewed was the process by which gun permits are issued and how discretion can be utilized by police chiefs and courts to make sure that permits stay out of the hands of those that shouldn't have them.

At the end of the presentation Jenkins, Blaszkas and Sandown police officers were on hand to answer further questions from the audience.

## Superintendent

continued from page 1

finally parents of students. The goal of the groups, said Barczak, is to collect input on not only the traits, knowledge, skills etc. that the new superintendent should possess, but also what issues need tackling when that person takes on the job.

A search screening committee and a committee to research contracts are also in the works.

The district is hoping to have chosen a candidate by

July to mid-August, said Barczak. LaSalle's last day is June 30.

An interim superintendent to bridge the gap between LaSalle and a new hire has yet to be chosen.

In other selectmen news:

Selectmen unanimously approved an amended Fremont Road Town Forest Conservation Easement. The amended version includes the addition of two existing town-owned parcels (totaling about 50 acres). It's a move previously approved

by voters. Conservation commission chair Pam Merrill Solomon remarked that it was an oversight that the easement had not already been updated.

Merrill Solomon also put out a call for anyone interested in volunteering with the conservation commission. The commission is looking for two full board members and an alternate. Contact pmerrill@sandowncc.org with inquiries.

The board briefly discussed a complaint filed with the Attorney General's office by resident Ralph Millard. Millard charges the

town with illegal actions over the failure of a petition warrant article he spearheaded on elderly exemption amounts in March.

In his complaint Millard urges the Attorney General to order the selectmen to instate the failed petition as a town ordinance.

The town has had to employ legal counsel to respond to the complaint. In response, town attorney Diane Gorow (who was present at town meeting) included copies of the meeting minutes which indicate that Millard's allegations are unfounded.

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# TRI-TOWN HAPPENINGS

## CHESTER

### Storytimes

Storytimes at Chester Public Library are Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. They are geared for children ages 3 to 5, and Mr. Tim will read stories and teach crafts. The Library is at 3 Chester St., next to the Post Office. For more information, call 887-3404.

### Chester Memorial Day

The Chester Lions Club will hold their annual Memorial Day Ceremony at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 28. It will take place at the Revolutionary War Memorial at the Village Cemetery. Set to speak during the short service are state representative Gene Charron and Leslie Packard, who will be representing the Lions Club and the American Legion. Boy Scouts with Chester's Pack 163 will serve as the honor guard.

### June Jubilee

The Chester Congregational & Baptist Church will be having its annual June Jubilee on Saturday, June 2nd from 9am to 3pm at the church. Come enjoy our delicious home-made menu that includes barbecue chicken, rib dinner, or North Carolina style pulled pork with all the "fix-ins". Cost is \$11 for Regular plates, \$17 for Combo plates, and \$6 for Kid's plates. The barbecue dinner is served from 11am until 3pm and take-out is available. Also featured is the church yard sale and bake sale - come and find your treasures! All proceeds will benefit the church. For more information please call the church office at 887-4799 or email [chesterchurchoffice@gsinet.net](mailto:chesterchurchoffice@gsinet.net). The church is located in the center of Chester.

### Plant Sale

Rockingham Herb Society will hold its annual Plant Sale 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sat. June 2, in front of Stevens Memorial Hall in the center of Chester. If raining it will be held indoors. Plants available include a great variety of perennials, annuals, vegetables, herbs, indoor plants and small shrubs. The annual plant sale supports the community programs which are offered through

the Rockingham Herb Society and donations to area environmental projects. New members are always welcome from any NH town. Contact Sylvia Anderson 887-4911 or Jackie Brown 887-3842.

### Co-ed Volleyball

Chester Recreation is offering free adult co-ed pickup volleyball on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at the Chester Multi-purpose room. Call the Recreation Department for more information at 887-5773 or e-mail: [sharon@chesternhrec.org](mailto:sharon@chesternhrec.org)

### Softball

Chester Softball is looking for softball players ages 7 through 14. Sign up at [www.chesternhbaseball.com](http://www.chesternhbaseball.com). Optional practices have already started on Sundays. Email: [jfswindows@comcast.net](mailto:jfswindows@comcast.net) for times.

### Baseball, Softball

Chester Baseball and Softball Registration is open for all divisions for the 2012 season. Information about tryouts for AAA, Minors and Majors will be posted at: <http://www.chesternhbaseball.com> and click on the clipboard to register.

### Chester Dancers Performance

The Spring Performance will be presented in the Multipurpose Room of Chester Town Hall on June 9. with performance times at 1:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. This year's ballet performances center around the magical birds in Ballets. Everyone is invited to see how the dancers in the program have progressed and view the exquisite professional ballet tutus. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Further information on program or performance available at website: [www.chesterdancers.org](http://www.chesterdancers.org) or email: [chesterdancers@comcast.net](mailto:chesterdancers@comcast.net)

## HAMPSTEAD

### Boxtop Drive

Hampstead Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) invites the community to join its BoxTops for Education Drive, which provides money to enrich the programs

offered to Hampstead Central School and Hampstead Middle School students. Help by clipping boxtops from products and drop them off at collection sites around the community - Hampstead Public Library, Hampstead Central School, and Hampstead Memorial Gym.

### Supervisors of the Checklist

Hampstead Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Town Hall on Tues., June 5, 2012 between 7-7:30pm to register new voters and update the checklist. June 5, 2012 is the last day to change your party affiliation before the primary on Sept. 11, 2012. You may also do this at the Town Clerks Office during regular business hours.

### Books for Breakfast

The Hampstead Public Library continues its Books for Breakfast event series from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, May 26. The program is designed to give families more time together. The library will have crafts, books to share, and breakfast foods. Everyone who attends will be entered in a raffle. This program series is made possible by a grant from Target. Books for Breakfast will not meet from June through August, but will resume in September.

### Red Sox Tickets

Hampstead's Baseball and Softball Association is selling raffle tickets at one for \$10 or three for \$20 for four tickets to the Red Sox vs. Yankees game July 8 in section 165 row MM. The winner will be picked at the end of the association's season. Contact Mike Fairbank at [mpmbfairbank@msn.com](mailto:mpmbfairbank@msn.com) or 617-462-6827 for tickets. All proceeds from the raffle will go to the improvements at the fields and a new scoreboard at Holiday Lane.

### Strawberry Festival

Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St., hosts its annual Strawberry Festival and Craft Fair on Saturday June 9, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to celebrate summer. Games for children, a plant table, baked goods, a lunch, and strawberry shortcake are featured, along with

almost 30 spaces for crafters. Crafters who wish to be outside must bring their own weather shelter. Crafter applications are available by visiting [www.hampsteaducc.org](http://www.hampsteaducc.org) and going to the news section or contacting Kate Thomas at [katiebt@comcast.net](mailto:katiebt@comcast.net) or 489-8170.

### Crafters and Artists Wanted

St. Anne Summerfest is seeking crafters and artists for the event being held Sat., July 28, on the Hampstead Town Green. This all-day event, has booths open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities planned for the day include a road race, vintage car show, games for all ages, food and bake sales, bounce tent and obstacle course, live entertainment, silent auction, and raffles. This is a very popular event, with over 1500 visitors! Spaces are 10' x 10' and cost \$40 for an uncovered space and \$50 for a covered space. You can find directions and the application online at [www.saintannechurchnh.org](http://www.saintannechurchnh.org) (click on "Summerfest" at the top, then "Craft and Art Booths"), or contact Claire Manes at (603) 642-3250 (9 a.m. - 9 p.m.).

### Compost Bins

The Hampstead Recycling and Solid Waste Committee has again obtained compost bins for residents. The compost bins are available at the Town Office at a cost of \$47. For more information, contact Tina Harrington at 329-4100, ext. zero.

### Vacation Bible Kickoff

All are invited to the "Gold Rush Gathering" Vacation Bible School (VBS) kickoff event on Saturday, June 2, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Island Pond Baptist Church, 26 North Salem Road. Games, food, and inflatables are featured. VBS is free and will run from June 25 - 29 from 9 a.m. to noon. Visit [www.islandpondbc.org](http://www.islandpondbc.org) or call the church office at 329-5959 for more information.

### Museum Passes

The Hampstead Public Library is announces an addition to its museum passes, which are available for patrons to check out: the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. The library passes admit two to four people, depending on the day, for the admission of \$5 each, instead

of the regular \$12. Call the library at 329-6411 to check pass availability and make a reservation. This museum pass is made possible by a donation from the Friends of the Hampstead Public Library.

### Storytime

Storytime for 3- to 5-olds at the Hampstead Public Library will take a break for the summer, starting Memorial Day. The last session is Thursday, May 24, at 1:30 p.m.

### Holiday Hours

The Hampstead Public Library will be open normal hours on Sat., May 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., but will be closed on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.

### May Movie

The Hampstead Public Library's May Movie is the recent film based on Janet Evanovich's "One for the Money," the first novel in her popular Stephanie Plum series. The movie will be screened at 7 p.m. on Thurs., May 31 and is about the hapless Stephanie Plum. This library movie event is free and open to the public. Come see the movie and enjoy the popcorn!

### Nonfiction Book Discussion

The Non-Fiction Book Group at the Hampstead Public Library will be discussing "Paul Revere's Ride" by David Hackett Fischer Mon., June 18 at 7 p.m. Paul Revere's midnight ride looms as an almost mythical event in American history. Fischer uncovers a truth far more remarkable than the myths of tradition. Copies of the book are available at the library's front desk, and newcomers are always welcome to the discussions.

### Crafters and Artists Wanted

St. Anne Summerfest is seeking crafters and artists for the upcoming festival, happening Sat., July 28, on the Hampstead Town Green. This is an all-day event, with booths open from 9 a.m. to 4 pm. Activities planned for the day include a road race, car show, games for all ages, food and bake sales, bounce tent and obstacle course, live entertainment, silent auction, and raffles. This event, attracts over 1,500

visitors. Spaces are 10' x 10' and cost \$40 for an uncovered space and \$50 for a covered space. You can find directions and the application online at [www.saintannechurchnh.org](http://www.saintannechurchnh.org) or contact Claire Manes at (603) 642-3250 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

### Soccer Club

The Hampstead Soccer Club Hurricanes is taking online registration at [www.eteamz.com/hampsteadsoccer](http://www.eteamz.com/hampsteadsoccer). Those who wish to register in person can do so at the Hampstead Civic Club from 6 to 8 p.m. June 5. Tryouts and skill assessments will be held at the Depot Road Fields on June 12 and 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. For questions, contact Julie Ahern at [yagger125@aol.com](mailto:yagger125@aol.com) or 382-8010, or Dan Jendrick at [d.jendrick@hotmail.com](mailto:d.jendrick@hotmail.com).

### East Hampstead Luncheon

A Public Soup and Sandwich Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 6 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM, at the East Hampstead Union Church located at 225 E. Main Street, Route 121A, just south of Route 111. Offerings include a variety of soups and sandwiches, chips, pickles, assorted beverages and desserts. The meal is by donation to the Operating Fund. Chair-lift accessible. Take out meals are available. The church is an inter-denominational Christian Fellowship serving the community since 1897. All are welcome. Telephone: (603) 378-0683

### Church Yard Sale

Held rain or shine on Thurs., May 24; Fri., May 25 and Sat., May 26 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the East Hampstead Union Church located at 225 East Main Street, Route 121A, just south of Route 111. The church is an interdenominational Christian fellowship serving the community since 1897 and proceeds benefit the Operating Fund. Furniture, books, records, glassware, household items, toys, decorations, rugs, and more. Items priced as marked. Clean donations gratefully accepted starting Monday, May 21; please call or e-mail to schedule drop off. We regret we cannot accept large appliances or computers.

Telephone: (603) 378-0683  
or e-mail ehuc@comcast.net

### Special Needs Group

Hampstead Special Education Parent Group will meet on Tues., May 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hampstead Middle School library, Hampstead School District's Technology Director, and Computer Educator, will present "Special Education 'Appy' Hour". Education

and communication applications for people with special needs are being developed daily, and these are proving to be powerful, flexible and portable tools for parents and teachers. Join us to learn about this technology and how it can be used at home or in the classroom for education designed for people with disabilities. Please RSVP to info@hampsteadsepg.org

### Outside in Hampstead

The Hampstead Conservation Commission will sponsor its annual Blue Heron Rookery Walk on May 26, at 1 p.m., starting at the Golden Meadow Trail head. Bring binoculars, tick spray, hiking stick & waterproof boots (if you have them). For more info contact Linda Ross at LMGRoss49@yahoo.com.

### Sports Award

The Hampstead Hawks Middle School Athletic Club invites all Middle School Baseball, Softball, Track and Golf Athletes and their families to the Spring Sports Award Banquet. The event is being held on Tuesday June 5th @6:30pm in the Middle school Gym. Please note that the slide show presentation will begin at 6:15pm.

Each athlete is asked to bring individually wrapped snacks.

### Hampstead Memorial Day

The 2012 Hampstead Memorial Day Observation will be held on Monday, May 28, at the Meetinghouse Park Gazebo behind Town Offices. The observance will begin promptly at 11 a.m. And will end at noon. Members of local youth, scouting and veterans groups as well as local digni-

ties will also be in attendance. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and join us for an hour of remembrance. In the event of rain, the observance will be moved across the street to the Veterans Memorial Gymnasium. Questions can be directed to Howie Steadman at 329-4288.

### Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office Closed

The Hampstead Town  
continued on page 15

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

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## Local Classifieds

### LOCAL LISTINGS FOR LOCAL READERS

**ACUPUNCTURE**  
Acupuncture Services of New England, Janet Travis, Licensed Acupuncturist. 13 Orchard View Drive, Londonderry. By Appointment. 603-490-8260. acuserVICES@prodigy.net

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**MOVING SALE**  
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Huge Yard Sale May 26th 10 Tiger Tale Circle, Derry NH TV’s, Electronics, Baby Things & more 9-1

Yard- Estate Sale May 26th & May 27th 10am to 3:30pm 7 Victoria Drive, Londonderry Something for Everyone, Furniture, Office Equipment, Books, Clothing, VHS & DVD’s, Housewares and more!

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# Happenings

**continued from page 13**

Clerk-Tax Collector's office will be closed on Wednesday June 6, 2012. The staff will be attending the Seacoast Regional Spring Workshop. We regret any inconvenience.

## Compost Bins

The Hampstead Recycling and Solid Waste Committee has once again procured compost bins for residents. The compost bins are available at the Town Office at a cost of \$47.00. For more information contact Tina Harrington at 329-4100 x 0.

## Good News Club

An after school Good News Club, which is sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of NH ([www.ce-fnh.org](http://www.ce-fnh.org)), is being held at the Hampstead Central School and meets each Thursday until June 7th, from 3:30 – 5:00 pm in room 113. There is no cost and the classes are fun-filled with dynamic Bible lessons and creative learning activities. Please call Lisa at 603-235-1887 with questions and for more information.

## Mothers' Club Ice Cream Social

Are you ready for summer? The Hampstead Mothers' Club Ice Cream Social is just the event to kick-off the season! Join us on Wednesday, June 13th from 6:30-8:00pm at the Hampstead Central School. Sundaes are \$3 each and will feature a variety of toppings. Please join us!

## SANDOWN

### Memorial Day Parade

Sandown's Memorial Day parade line-up will be at 11:30 a.m. at the Sandown Depot. The parade will begin at 12 p.m. and proceed south on Main St. with a brief halt at the War Monument on the Town Hall lawn. At the War Monument, children are encouraged to place tokens of their appreciation to Sandown's War veterans. The parade then continues south on Main St. and into the Center Cemetery where a Memorial Service will be held lead by Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Kevin Major. Groups or individuals wishing to take part in the parade and service should contact: LTC (ret) Kevin Major at 887-5442

## Dividing Perennials

If your perennials are not performing as you would like, it's probably time to divide them. The Sandown Garden Club would like to help. The club is planning its annual Plant Sale for Saturday, June 2. Club members will visit local homes and divide established perennials to sell at their sale. This will not only help residents' gardens, but proceeds from the plant sale are used by the club for town projects. To have a club member divide your perennials, call Fran Rosenau at 887-5131. The Sandown Garden Club is a member of the New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc. For more information, visit [sandowngardenclub.org](http://sandowngardenclub.org).

## Annual Plant Sale

The Sandown Garden Club announces its Annual Plant Sale. The sale is on Sat., June 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of the Sandown Firehouse on Main Street. All plants sold are donated from the gardens of local homeowners which means they are hardy and thrive in New Hampshire's climate zone. The plants are reasonably priced. Shoppers are encouraged to come early for the best selection. Club members will be available to answer questions and help pick the right plants for one's garden. For more information on the Sale or membership visit the web-site [SandownGardenClub.org](http://SandownGardenClub.org).

## Counselors-in-Training

Sandown Parks and Recreation is accepting applications for counselor-in-training (CIT) positions. CITs are not employees; they are program participants. CITs can earn community service hours, learn job responsibility and skills, and have fun while learning. All program information, including registration form, can be found on the town website at [www.sandown.us](http://www.sandown.us) and navigating to the Parks and Recreation page. Deadline for CIT applications is May 24. A mandatory orientation will be held for CITs who have submitted their application by the deadline on Monday, June 11, at 6 p.m. A parent or guardian must attend.

## Breast Cancer Fundraiser

Dawn Leighton of Sandown, mother of nine and grandmother of nine, is participating in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer on May 19 and 20. She is holding a yard sale Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, from 9 a.m. to dusk both days at 47 Little Mill Road to raise money for the breast cancer fight. Women's clothing and shoes, household goods, antiques and postcards, jewelry, and children's items are featured. All proceeds will go to The Avon Walk. Those who can't attend but want to make a donation may visit [www.avon-walk.org/goto/dmleighton](http://www.avon-walk.org/goto/dmleighton).

## Story Hours

Preschoolers are invited on Tuesdays to Busy Bears Story Hours with sessions at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Sandown Public Library, taught by Jennifer Dawley, a certified early-childhood instructor who uses stories, music, sign language, poetry, and crafts to teach creative expression, social skills, listening skills, early literacy, and math skills.

## Knitting Group

Beginners to advanced knitters are invited to join the weekly knitting group on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the Sandown Public Library.

## Military Appreciation Month

May is designated as Military Appreciation Month, and the Sandown Public Library features a military display in the exhibit case. As a token of appreciation for service, the library has teamed up with Bean Towne Coffee House and Café in Hampstead to offer a free cup of coffee to service men and women. Stop by the library to receive a gift card.

## Holiday Closure

The Sandown Public Library will be closed Saturday, May 26, and Monday, May 28, for Memorial Day.

## Dog Registration

Residents with unregistered dogs are reminded that the deadline for registration was April 30. If the dogs aren't registered by the end of May, civil forfeiture fines of \$25 will be assessed beginning June 1. The town

is required by state law to enforce the registrations. Licensing fees are: Spayed or Neutered, 6.50; Unaltered, \$9; Citizen over 65, \$2 (for first dog only; Kennel (five or more), \$20. Current rabies certificates must be on file with the town clerk. Register in person or by mail by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Town of Sandown, P.O. Box 583. Include check made payable to the Town of Sandown.

## Fine-Free Month

May is Fine-Free Month at the Sandown Public Library. To encourage residents to return items, all overdue library materials returned in May will have the fines removed. Patrons are encouraged – but not obligated – to “pay” their overdue fines by bringing in non-perishable food to the Library. The food will be collected by staff and given to the Food Pantry. Items needed are: snacks, crackers and cheese, juices, individual beverages, cookies, small boxes of sugar, canned spaghetti, spaghetti sauces, 1-pound canned hams, cans of corned beef, tuna, or chicken, coffee (ground or instant), toilet paper (single or four-packs), tissues, shampoo, shaving cream, and disposable razors.

## Phonics Program

The Sandown Lions Club has purchased a Hooked-on-Phonics Classic learn-to-read program, available for loan to any Sandown or Danville resident with a child under 15. The loan period is three months. The loan is free but the Lions request a \$30 cash

deposit that will be refunded when the program is returned. For more information, contact Project Chairman Donna Green at 974-0758. For information about joining the Sandown Lions, contact Fred Soule at 974-0547 or [vbalnh@yahoo.com](mailto:vbalnh@yahoo.com) or any Sandown Lion.

## Cub Scouts

Sandown Pack 268 Spring Cub Scout Recruitment takes place at a pizza party on Thursday, May 24, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ed Garvey Recreation Center. Boys from all area towns are welcome. Cub Scouts is open to all boys in first through fifth grades, and offers field trips, educational events and fun. Contact Niki Price at 867-7338 for more information.

## REGIONAL

### Free Meals

Free, family-friendly meals open to the community are offered at the following times and locations: May 25, spaghetti supper, 5 to 6:30 p.m., First Parish Congregational Church, 47 East Derry Road, Derry, 434-0628; May 27, lunch, noon to 1 p.m., Seventh Day Adventist Church; May 27, dinner, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Church of the Transfiguration.

## Hyla Brook Poets

The Hyla Brook Poets' monthly writing workshop meets the third Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Frost Farm, 122 Rockingham Road (Route 28), Derry. For questions, contact Rob-

ert Crawford at [bobik-9@aol.com](mailto:bobik-9@aol.com) or visit [www.facebook.com/HylaBrookPoets](http://www.facebook.com/HylaBrookPoets).

## Running Camp

Greater Derry Running Camp for boys and girls in fifth grade and older will be held July 23-27 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Pinkerton Academy Track. Cost is \$80 per child, \$95 for late sign-up after July 9. For questions, contact Amy Bernard at: [paruncamp@yahoo.com](mailto:paruncamp@yahoo.com) or 548-7470.

## Relay for Life

The Relay for Life of Greater Derry and Londonderry begins Friday, June 22, at 6 p.m. and continues until Saturday, June 23, at 10 a.m. at the Pinkerton Academy Track in Derry. The towns of Derry, Londonderry, Hampstead, Chester, Sandown, Plaistow, Atkinson, Danville and Windham have both residents and businesses involved in the Relay. The event celebrates the lives of people who have battled cancer, remembers loved ones who lost their cancer battles, and fights back against the disease. For information on how to join a team or start one, to sponsor, volunteer, or walk as a survivor or participate in any capacity, contact Brigit Ryan-Souza at 471-4113 or [derry\\_relay@cancer.org](mailto:derry_relay@cancer.org) or visit [www.relayforlife.org/derryand-londonderry](http://www.relayforlife.org/derryand-londonderry). The next Team Captains' meeting is May 8 at 6:45 p.m. at the Derry Public Library on East Broadway.



## PUBLIC HEARING PLANNING BOARD

The Chester Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, June 6, 2012**, at 7:45 P.M. in the Meeting Room at the Municipal Office Building, 84 Chester Street to act on the following:

### 7:45 P.M.

1. Subdivision Application of Carrie Hadik (Applicant) who is requesting subdivision approval for a two (2) lot subdivision located at 665 Candia Road [Map 011-020-007, Thomas J. Sheehan, Owner].

These documents can be viewed during regular business hours in the Town Clerk's Office, Board of Selectmen's Office and the Planning Board Office at the Municipal Office Building. Questions and/or comments should be directed to the Planning Board Office.

*Brian Sullivan  
Chairman*

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